REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 4, 13, 17 and 18 are pending after entry of this Amendment. All claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b). Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration in view of the following remarks.

Amendment

The Specification was amended to update the section entitled "Cross-Reference to Related Applications." Claims 2, 5-12, 14-16, and 19-26 are canceled without prejudice. 1, 3, 13, 17 and 18 are amended to better highlight certain features of the claimed embodiments. Support for all amendments to the claims can be found in the Specification, page 22, lines 7-25. No new matter has been introduced by this amendment.

Outstanding Rejections

Claims 14 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Since these claims have been canceled without prejudice by this amendment, Applicant submits that the outstanding rejection is obviated. Therefore, withdrawal of the outstanding rejection is respectfully requested.

All pending claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 4,864,494, which is issued to Kobus, Jr. (Kobus). Applicant respectfully traverses.

Kobus discloses a software usage authorization system that depends on a dongle, which is an electronic security device containing a microprocessor and security information that is placed in electronic communication with the CPU. As an example, the dongle attaches to the RS-232 serial port of a standard computer. See col. 5, lines 1-5; col. 5, lines 55-66.

In contrast, claim 1 now recites, inter alia, a programmable error correcting circuit on the microprocessor chip. The error correcting circuit generates corrected processor instructions which are executed by processing circuitry also on the chip. Since Kobus does not contain or suggest these features, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is allowable over Kobus. Claim 17 contains similar limitations and should therefore be allowed for the same reasons as claim 1.

Claim 18 includes a method for processing a computer program including intentionally placing errors in a computer program, and correcting the instructions on the chip using error correction control information stored on the chip. Kobus does not teach or suggest these features, and so does not anticipate claim 18.

All remaining claims depend from one of the independent claims addressed above and should therefore be allowed for the same reasons.

If the Examiner has any questions, please contact the undersigned at (408) 749-6900, ext. 6933. Further, if any fees are due in connection with filing this amendment, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-0805 (Order No. SUNMP210). A copy of the transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,
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